



Daily Report

Supplement

Near East & South Asia

IRAN:
15-29 September 1991 Majles Sessions

FBIS-NES-91-213-S
Monday
4 November 1991

Near East & South Asia SUPPLEMENT

IRAN:

15-29 Sep 1991 Majles Sessions

FBIS-NES-91-213-S

CONTENTS

4 November 1991

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

RESALAT Reports on Majles Sessions	1
15 Sep [16 Sep]	1
17 Sep [18 Sep]	4
* 18 Sep [19 Sep]	8
22 Sep [23 Sep]	13
29 Sep [30 Sep]	18

RESALAT Reports on Majles Sessions

15 Sep

PM2310103091 Tehran RESALAT in Persian
16 Sep 91 p 5

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles held an open session yesterday morning, chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemiyan.

During this session, following remarks by deputies from Malavi, Jahrom, and Urumiyeh, the Majles went into session.

It is worth noting that Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the President of Pakistan, also attended this session as a guest and that he gave a speech. His speech was printed in the previous edition of the newspaper, along with the Majles Speaker's comments.

Below is the text of a report filed by RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent on yesterday's open session of the Majles.

Karim Malek-Asa, Malavi Deputy

One of the most important problems in our society is the fact that economic issues are not clarified.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Karim Malek-Asa, deputy from Malavi constituency. [passage omitted on Khamene'i's visit to Lorestan Province]

While thanking the great Leader [Khamene'i] for coming to this province, on behalf of the deprived people of Lorestan I ask the government to form a headquarters at the President's office to carry out the Leader's orders regarding the implementation of executive plans for the province. Within the province itself, this issue should be pursued by dedicated experts so that all orders are carried out. The executive bodies should place on their agenda all of the projects mentioned in the plan for 1992 and the plans put forth during this visit, and should predict the amount of credit needed. The Plan and Budget Organization must keep in mind that 13 out of 20 districts in the province and five counties are deprived. According to the comments made by the great Leader on 22 August to the martyr-rearing people of Lorestan, this province is considered one of the deprived areas of the country. In providing funds and other aid, it must be remembered that the province is deprived and that programs should be aimed at solving problems.

He continued: One of the biggest problems in our society is the fact that economic issues are not clarified. This has brought about a situation where the comments of the political factions do not make sense to the people.

Malek-Asa said: Issues concerning the pros and cons of making changes in the economy should have been discussed in a large conference made up of theological centers, universities, economic experts, those who are sympathetic to the revolution, and those who have

suffered for the revolution. The results of this seminar would then have been broadcast by radio and television and the mass media so that the people could have learned of the necessity for change. That way they could have prepared themselves for an economic battle as a religious and national duty, and they would have known that to safeguard the regime and its values, hardship must be tolerated. They then would have given willingly and would have brought the revolution through this difficult time, just as they did during the war. But these issues were never made clear, even for the experts involved, which means that those well-meaning, dedicated people did not have a correct analysis of the economic situation and its programs. So we see that the friends of the revolution, the dedicated soldiers of the fronts, the fighters, mobilization units, families of the great martyrs and those who have paid a price for the revolution are joining the ranks of those who criticize when the price of an item goes up and when it is no longer subsidized. They become cold and indifferent. We must not regard every person who complains as one who is against the revolution or the government. If we have a clear program, our dear people, who according to our departed Imam are the best people and have given everything they have, would not leave the officials to stand alone.

He added: Our life style should be simple and we must live like the middle class and feel the pains of the people. We must ensure that each time our children get sick, when they need a doctor and medication, we should not use our positions and must go to the hospitals like ordinary people. We must stand in line for the bus and for bus tickets; we must stand for hours, confused, at the bus terminal. We will then know how difficult it is for the people to live. Then we will know what it is like to serve the people. Then we will make the right and just decisions to solve those difficult problems in society that bother the people.

He stressed: We should know that our biggest problem at present is the economy. If the government wants to remove the subsidies on some goods, this hurried and unwise decision will break the backs of the poor, the victims of the floods. It should not be the case that the views of people who are religious and dedicated, who have gained experience during eight years of war, are put aside in favor of expert opinion. Their experience is not used and there is too much trust in experts' opinions. By copying other models of economic growth without taking into consideration the economic conditions in this country such as hoarding, high prices, and lack of national determination to carry out useful work for society, as well as dozens of other factors, we will not be able to overcome this problem. We should know that not taking these things into consideration will put the people under great pressure. Bank interest rates have gone from 12 percent last year to 23 percent this year. Has there been a thought given to its inflationary effects on production and the people's daily needs, since the distributors obtain loans from banks? Is it proper that all of those

goods that are bought using currency at the market rate should not be priced [by the government]? Should the producers compete to see who is selling at a higher price, so that the profits can go into the pockets of the leech-like capitalists? Despite all this profit falling out of the sky for them, even then we fear that God forbid they should still not be happy and not cooperate with us. All these things and many more need careful planning.

He continued: One of the most important problems faced by our society is our lack of attention to agriculture. Our sick assembly-line industry devoured \$10 billion of our money last year alone. Due to the lack of a correct industrial policy and a lack of attention to basic industries, because the current state is being preserved and because we do not have correct consumer habits, even if we pour many more billions of dollars into this well, we will not be a country that is able to earn adequate levels of hard currency from industrial goods. This is due to the low quality of products, lack of quality control, lack of attention to research, lack of ability to compete with goods from industrialized nations and the fact that they will not allow our goods to compete with their goods on the market. Then why is it that we do not at least pay attention to agriculture in the country and the related industries? The wood industry in Mazandaran imports the necessary wood from Gabon and Africa. The factories producing edible vegetable oil provide 15 to 20 percent of their raw materials from the internal market and import the rest. Each year thousands of tons of fruit, including apples, pears, grapes, citrus fruits and other produce goes bad. Our agro-industry and our natural resources that are under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Mobilization of the Oppressed have still not found their proper footing. The farmer is still given the runaround when it comes to providing the primary materials for his harvest such as tractors, spare parts, tires, fertilizers, poisons, and veterinary medication. Has it not been predicted in the five-year plan that our agriculture in 1990 has to have exports worth \$2.5 billion? Our ministries in charge of industry must come forth and provide replies. They have to provide the Islamic ummah with an accounting for all the hard currency they received and for all the times they did not act according to plans.

Malek-Asa concluded by giving notice to executive officials regarding solving the problems of his constituency.

Seyyed Fakhreddin Hashemi, Jahrom Deputy

The longer the glorious time of our great leader as leader of the revolution, the more hope for friends of the revolution and more despair for the enemies of Islam.

Seyyed Fakhreddin Hashemi from Jahrom constituency was the second pre-agenda speaker.

O Imam, even though you are gone, your lofty spirit will remain forever and your holy path and goals will continue, if God is willing, until the appearance of the Hidden Imam—may his return be expedited. Your student, the great and worthy Leader of the revolution

Ayatollah Khamene'i, will continue your path and your aims. The longer he stays as Leader, the more hope for friends of the revolution and more despair for the enemies of Islam and the revolution. We hope that with unity and by obeying the orders of the great Leader, we will be able to follow the aims of our departed Imam.

He added: Although solving economic problems and looking into the issues faced by civil servants and white-collar workers as well as the oppressed is important, even more important is to strengthen Islamic culture and traditions. This is something that the great Leader of the revolution has warned about and has emphasized. I will mention this important point: Many countries have achieved success in their economy while their national culture has dropped low. As a result of this, they are now faced with immorality and corruption. What causes one to forget a healthy Islamic culture, which will in the long run cause the destruction of a movement and a revolution, is the spread of prostitution, immoral behavior, the deviation of youth, and women not obeying Islamic dress codes or not obeying them fully. This lowers the dignity of women and promotes irresponsible behavior. The Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, as well as the radio and television of the Islamic Republic, must play a leading role in preventing the spread of corrupt Western culture. [passage omitted]

The deputy from Jahrom continued: The town of Jahrom, with about 200,000 people, has four districts. Two of these have been designated as deprived areas; in the other two districts, two counties have been so designated. Despite the fact that since the beginning of the revolution much work has been done in that town, many problems still remain. Unfortunately, because of either droughts or floods, as well as the lack of employment, migration from this town continues. Several villages in the area of Jahrom have become semideserted. The agricultural area of Jahrom itself—which is the town's biggest district—is now in a dangerous situation because of a lack of water and the drying up of wells and traditional water systems. Despite the fact that there was a seminar on water issues in Jahrom last year, so far nothing has been done. Something must be done as quickly as possible.

The locals have sent in many letters and petitions to say that they are ready to build small earth dams to divert flood waters. I ask the respected President to order the Jahrom governor to make the necessary facilities available to the local people so that they themselves can build small earth dams to spread and divert the flood waters, just like the late Haj Karim Sadeqi who built an earth dam for the town of Jahrom.

He reminded the session that rising prices are the result of the situation before the revolution, the imposed war, reconstruction, and changes in the economic trends which put pressure on the poorer classes. It is necessary to compensate for this somehow. This includes the increase in the price of metered electricity, which is too high for the lower classes. If possible, there should be a

discount for this group so that they can at least pay the price in monthly installments.

He also commented on the labor law, the plan to classify jobs, and the laws dealing with councils.

'Ali Kamyar, Urumiyeh Deputy

The last pre-agenda speaker was 'Ali Kamyar, deputy from Urumiyeh, who in his speech welcomed the Pakistani president by saying: One must keep in mind the incredible affection that the two peoples from Iran and Pakistan have for one another, which is something that was witnessed time and time again during the revolution. An example of this affection is the historic and unprecedented welcome given to Ayatollah Khamene'i during his presidential visit to Pakistan. The Pakistani people kissing his car filled us all with emotion. It said everything about how they felt—that Ayatollah Khamene'i is one of us, that we love him as much as the Iranian nation loves him. I, as a member of the Irano-Pakistani Friendship Society from the Majles, wish the Pakistani president every success. I hope that he will be successful in preventing U.S. influence from settling disputes between the various Muslim groups in Pakistan. We hope that he will not allow the criminal United States to achieve even the smallest gain from its perpetual plans.

In another section of his speech, he spoke of the trip made by the UN secretary general to Iran and the mention of Iraqi war reparations to Kuwait. He said: It seems that if the United States wants something, it is done quickly at the United Nations, that if something is against U.S. wishes, the United Nations takes its time. Why is it that the United Nations should take three years and still achieve no results on Resolution 598? Why is it that they act so slowly when it comes to identifying the aggressor and the manner in which war reparations have to be paid to Iran? Is this not something that the United Nations is carrying out in accordance with U.S. wishes?

Kamyar thanked the constant and successful efforts of the President, especially on the international scene, and also thanked the foreign minister. In another section of his speech, he addressed students at the start of the new academic year and said: The revolution and the country has all its hopes in you students.

To safeguard all the sacrifices made by the people during the years of the revolution, and especially during the imposed war that is a source of pride for our people's history, is up to you. It is you who always have to feel yourselves responsible toward the revolution. You must make yourselves ready to carry out the heavy duties of guarding the revolution. You should know that the situation in the country today is the result of years of struggle against world aggression by the late Leader [Khomeyni].

The country is free of foreign elements and the enemies have lost hope in us, but a huge price has been paid for this. There has been martyrdom, bravery, sacrifices, loss of life—all for the revolution. There have been bombs,

explosions, tears, and loss so that today, thank God we have a country that is powerful and independent, with an ideology that has sprung up in the world. We hope that, God willing, you will have your own presence in schools. By taking active steps in education, it is hoped that you will be able to undertake your heavy responsibilities and that you will be able to play your part as children of the revolution and the country for the world to see.

He addressed teachers and said: You who are responsible for these loved ones, your job was described by the Imam as a job for prophets. You are the treasure holders of the people. To give you glory and dignity it is enough that the people trust you with their most valuable possessions. For you dear ones, we also wish every success at the start of this new academic year. We know how patient you are and we know all the problems that you have to tolerate. We know that you live in hardship as far as the economy is concerned. Of course, both the government of the respected President Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the Majles are aware that there should be more attention paid to this deprived level of society. Of course, all that can be done is being done. An example of this occurred a few days ago with the bill to coordinate salaries of civil servants, which you witnessed at the Majles. It is hoped that patience from you dear ones and serious work from the dedicated civil servants will prepare the groundwork for more support from the Majles and the government.

The speaker then addressed university students and said: You are well aware of the sensitivity of your role in the growth of the country. Repeated support from the great Leader for this level of society indicates that our country's success depends on the vigilant presence of this group in the country's social and political scenes. Just as you had a major role to play in the success of the revolution, you will have a determining role on the cultural fronts.

The deputy from Urumiyeh continued his speech by mentioning problems faced by his constituency. He said: Unfortunately, despite the fact that Mr. Aqaradeh, the respected oil minister, has promised in his reply to my question that he would solve the problem of fuel in 1991, it has yet to be resolved. And the people are still suffering because of this.

I do not wish to play down the activities of the Oil Ministry, but I do announce this result: The people are still lining up for hours to get a few liters of kerosene. The fact that agricultural production was faced with a shortage of water and suffered as a result is another story which takes much time to explain. The other problem of the province, which has always been apparent, is our border problem. We have 804 km of land borders and we are always struggling with their problems. Today's problem is that criminal elements are using the open borders, which has caused us enormous difficulties. Illegal cross-border traffic takes place by armed and unarmed people. And the entry of sensitive equipment, to be sold later, has caused inflation for the locals. The

type of goods that are imported are those that we not only do not need, but those that we hate, including narcotics and alcoholic drinks. The things that leave our borders are the type of things that we always need, including this same fuel that the people need. All these things leave our borders. There are also the armed criminals who are sent to bother our people. It is proper that I ask Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani to call on the respected cabinet in this regard to do something serious. This is not a problem just for our province, but rather a source for problems throughout the country.

He concluded by asking the Ministry of Roads and Transportation to pay attention to the Martyr Kalantari Highway in Urumiyeh.

Ratifications

During yesterday's open session, the plan to extend the legal deadline for early retirement of those workers eligible for social welfare, which was returned by the Council of Guardians, was passed following amendments.

The report filed by our correspondent indicates that according to the amendment made to this bill, the implementation of the early retirement law dated 18 May 1988 will be extended by one year from the date of this law.

The report also says that according to a corrective footnote to this bill, the method of payment of a length-of-service-pay to workers will be prepared within the next month by the minister of labor and social issues and approved by the cabinet.

During yesterday's open session, a group of deputies submitted a letter to ask that priority be removed from the plan to determine the method of transferring ownership of buildings, property, and land needed by the government and municipalities. The priority given to this plan was passed in a session dated 4 August 1991. Following discussions for and against this priority, the suggestion to remove the priority did not achieve majority vote and it was decided that the entire plan be discussed at the next open session.

The Question Posed by Fazel Hamedani to the Minister of Energy Regarding Water Supplies in Hamedan Province

During this session there was also a question posed by 'Ali Mosbat Fazel Hamedani, deputy from Bahar and Kabutar Ahang.

Fazel Hamedani raised his question by noting that the agriculture commission recently visited Hamedan Province and presented a report to the Ministry of Energy that said: "The issue of water shortages for agriculture in Hamedan Province has become a crisis."

He outlined his four questions as follows:

1. Weak research into water in Hamedan Province.

2. Lack of attention to the question of water in Hamedan and the Ekbatan dam, which is filling up with silt.

3. The undesirable situation and lack of water for agriculture in Hamedan during spring.

4. The undesirable water situation in villages on the edge of Alvand mountain.

He said: Lack of planning and lack of attention to water shortages has created a situation whereby agriculture continues its unsatisfactory trend. The poor people in the area are now migrating to other parts. Our farmers must not be forced to migrate to other regions because of a weakness among managers who deal with water.

Minister of Energy Namdar-Zangeneh replied to the above questions and said: We are studying a report about a dam in the province. We believe that in general, there are two land masses in the region that do not have adequate surface water supplies. This is why there are some worthwhile studies now being done on this subject. The presence of a water consultant in the area whose responsibility is to study water problems forms part of the research the ministry is undertaking.

He then talked about the lack of attention toward water in Hamedan and the Ekbatan dam and said: With regard to the Ekbatan dam there are three issues:

1. It is not possible to increase the water in that area.
2. Dredging of the dam, which is under discussion.
3. A new dam in another area, which is also under discussion.

The minister of energy talked about the lack of spring water for agriculture and said: The digging of three illegal wells in that area is not helping. Mr. Fazel should help prevent this. We agree that this sort of loss should be stopped.

Namdar-Zangeneh concluded by saying that the problem of water for the Alvand villages was being studied.

Fazel Hamedani continued: There must be something more basic done about water problems in the province. The ministry has to change its system because the minister's deputies are not prepared to travel to this province. He has to request that mobilization volunteers carry out the final studies.

In the end he was not happy with the replies given by the minister, so his questions were sent to the commission that deals with questions.

17 Sep

PM2810121691 Tehran RESALAT in Persian
18 Sep 91 p 5

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The open session of the Majles was held yesterday morning, and was chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karubi.

At this session, following comments by deputies from Falavarjan, Amol, Rasht, and Kangavar, the Majles went into session.

Below is the text of the report filed by RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent.

Mostafa Taherizadeh, Falavarjan Deputy

Utilizing the full capacity of factories and mines means more production and lower prices.

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's open session of the Majles was Taherizadeh, deputy from Falavarjan, who said the implementation of Resolution 598 was the least that was expected by the people of Iran and international organizations.

He then commented on the downfall of Marxism in the Soviet Union and said: Finally, the Godless regime of Marxism reached a deadlock after 70 years of imposing control, and the people under its tyranny have tasted freedom. What is worth noticing here is Iran's political independence and the fact that it is not dependent on any superpower. In reality, it is self-reliant. Following the glorious Islamic revolution, despite changes in the world and in the region, Iran has made no changes in its direction, and continues on its path.

He added: Those countries who see it to be in their interest to follow the superpowers, in other words, those who mingle their own fate with that of the powers, raise their hopes with a coup here and a defeated coup there. But those countries that have based their policies on independence, who rely on their own people and their own popular support—changes in the world do not make any difference in their direction at all.

The speaker then spoke about the people's economic situation: Achieving the full utilization of current capacities in numerous factories and working mines, and continuing this trend in those units that have succeeded in doing this, not only means more goods in the market, but also means that the goods will find a realistic price. It also moves the wheels of production in the country and fully utilizes those investments made in facilities and manpower. The internal issues of those units will also be resolved through more activity. In 1369 [1990-91], because there was currency provided for raw materials, there was an increase in production of many industrial units, so much so that many of these units showed in practice that they are capable of reaching their desired output levels. But the only hard currency available to the units under the control of the industrial sector was about \$7 billion. These production units, by selling their products at a price higher than cost, because they used hard currency at a competitive rate and because there was no price control, were able to make up for their accumulated losses to a large extent. Because these industries need a lot of hard currency this year, if the currency sector is unable to meet their needs in allowing them to buy the necessary raw materials, some of these units will face difficulties. One can provide currency for

some of them by exporting their products. Even though this is possible in some cases, in others, because they are unable to compete with the quality and price of similar goods abroad, this is not always possible. So in factories, the real solution is to raise the quality to international standards or else to reconstruct and change technologies.

He talked about the problems faced by projects and the plans that are being utilized. He said: On one hand, production units in the country all need hard currency to provide their raw materials. On the other, there are many, many projects throughout the country, which are half-finished and almost finished, whose final end product is the raw material needed by the other units. But in general, mostly because of a lack of hard currency, the purchase of machinery and equipment is slow. Only by looking into the situation regarding these plans and by bringing them up to the working level can one start to save on hard currency put aside in the economic plan. This is possible only through constant supervision and reporting on the progress of the work, noting the existing problems and overcoming them within the set deadlines.

In another section of his speech he talked about the actions of the private sector in production and said: The serious involvement of the private sector in production means attracting the enormous amount of cash flow in the country which now, unfortunately, is being used in deals by middlemen, thus causing inflation. Raising production plays a major role in lowering inflation and removing many problems in the economy. In this connection, it is necessary to think first of all about ways to prevent those deals that are not constructive in any way, which only end in huge profits being made. In addition to taking this step, obstacles currently in the path of private sector investment in the area of production should be removed. Then, by giving them special incentives, one should encourage this sector toward production work.

He added: The other important issue in this area that must be straightened out is the provision of adequate foreign exchange for numerous projects, both small and large, in the field of industry and mines. This started in 1362 [1983-84], with the provision of land, building materials, and construction. But because there simply was not enough foreign exchange to buy machinery, their work has come to a standstill and progress is slow. A look at the foreign exchange table for 1370 [1991-92] will reveal that out of the entire foreign exchange income, only 55 out of 100 billion has been set aside for investment in production plans and projects in the industrial and mining sector. This indicates the importance of the issue, which demands more attention than before from the government and the Majles, especially the Plan and Budget Organization and the Majles budget commission.

The deputy from Falavarjan said the transfer of technology and technical knowledge is the main basis of the Islamic Republic's continuing strength. He added: The mechanism for this point can be seen in clause D of footnote 29 of the law dealing with the five-year plan

whose executive charter has not yet been written. On one hand, the organizations that have the plans see themselves responsible only for drawing up the plans and finishing them. On the other, the broad range of facilities invested in the public and private sectors in terms of workshops, equipment, and expert manpower are ready to cooperate with regard to the transfer of technology within the internal projects. Of course, one must also admit that during past years the local companies have not been able to carry out their commitments that well because of easy conditions that existed for their competitors. In any case, today the country is involved with making plans and engaging in many deals with foreign companies. It is necessary that the transfer of technology and technological knowledge be considered very seriously right from the start of the contract.

The speaker asked that a delegation on behalf of the president look into the bureaucracy at customs and the Central Bank.

Mahmud Kazemi Dinan, Amol Deputy

We must act intelligently to counter the filthy cultural plot.

Mahmud Kazemi Dinan, deputy from Amol, was the second pre-agenda speaker. He talked about the speech given by the great Leader [Khamene'i] to Friday prayer leaders and said: Despite all the tricks of the Great Satan, the holy regime of the Islamic Republic exists with full power. It has gained strength with the blood of worthy men and has passed through dangerous stages. There exists a powerful government, headed by the one the ummah loves, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and the collection of ministers who adore this regime. They will adopt the correct policies and represent the Islamic Republic at world organizations. They adopt a brave stance regarding internal issues and will continue to build the country in a manner worthy of the Imams, either with economic or welfare plans. Existing evidence indicates that they have been successful. If God is willing they will achieve what they have set out to do, moving quickly toward the predetermined goals.

He then commented on the "new world order" brought forth by the United States: The United States and all the other criminals, large and small, should know that the time of the masses's awareness has come. There is now a new breath of fresh air being blown into the spirits of humans by the Islamic revolution. The influence of money, power, and tricks has lessened. At this time I thank the respected president and the respected Supreme National Security Council for following the line of the Leader and guiding the Islamic Republic safely through the turbulence of the Persian Gulf war.

He commented on the duties of the Ministry of Education, higher education, and the theological centers regarding the enormous plot hatched by the enemies of Islam and said:

One must act cleverly when it comes to the filthy cultural plot that has been hatched. This important fact should be well thought-out and foiled, particularly when it comes to loved ones in the universities.

O Muslim masses, let us grab the bonds of unity. If we want the palace of the enemy to be destroyed, which is what you wish, then we have to arm ourselves with the weapon of unity. If we want to see Islamic lands and dear Jerusalem liberated from the hands of Zionists, if we want to see the Palestinian people in the land from the Nile to the Tigris, if Kashmir, Afghanistan, and other parts of the world are to see happy days, and if mankind is to achieve its just rights, and if the devil is to be belittled, then we must strike a chord with God. The enemies have achieved unity in order to destroy Islam. As for the masses of arms that they had gathered to destroy one another, they are now thinking about using these to destroy Islam and Muslims. Eight years' experience in war and bitter memories during the past 1,400 years in separate existence have taught us to put our fate in the folds of the rule of the juriconsult and to obey the axis of unity.

Eliyas Hazrati, Rasht Deputy

Any economic policy with any strategy needs supervision and control over the market.

The third pre-agenda speaker was Eliyas Hazrati from the constituency of Rasht.

He said: One of the important and decisive issues in any regime is to control that regime within the framework of what is beneficial to the regime itself and the people at large. To observe this issue is so important that the late Imam—may his passage to paradise be expedited—at various times and throughout his jewel-like statements, within the framework of his rule and management of the revolution as juriconsult, emphasized this subject time and time again. An example of this was in his directive regarding the Expediency Discernment Council when he said: "The interest of the regime and the people is an important issue. Resisting this brings into question the Islam of the oppressed in the short- and long-term. It will make victorious the American Islam of the rich and the aggressors, which is being strengthened with billions of dollars from internal and external elements."

Included in this issue was the case a few days ago regarding an order to evacuate a girl's dormitory. If the person who issued that order had the slightest recognition of what is in our interest, he would without a doubt not have undertaken that action. With an order from the great Leader, thank God the issue was resolved. But why is it that after 12 or 13 years on the revolution's fronts, we should not be able to recognize such issues and why should there be need for intervention from the juriconsult every time?

He added: There is also the respected government's economic policy. How often and how many of the

revolution's sympathizers have stressed that any economic policy with any type of strategy needs government supervision? If there is no control over prices, the market will be let loose and they will milk these poor people dry. Thank God this is now being looked into in the interest of the regime and the people, but of course it is far too late.

Then there is the understanding and analysis of the respected Council of Guardians of Article 99 of the Constitution. It seems that if we look at this issue very optimistically, the least we can say is that the interests of the regime and the people have not been taken into consideration at all in this case. Why is the respected Council of Guardians crushing beneath its feet the methods of elections held during the lifetime of the Imam, only to present a new analysis of this article? No one denies the fact that analysis of the Constitution is up to the Council of Guardians. The issue concerns what has happened and what is going to happen, now that there is this sudden rush to take this action. What have we gained so far from the discussions that went on during the elections for the Assembly of Experts, for us to want to repeat them on a larger scale for the fourth Majles? If you think the problems of this regime start and end with a few Majles deputies who criticize the government's social, political and economic policies, or a newspaper or magazine that looks at issues with a critical eye, or if you think taking these people to court or removing them will solve all your problems, I swear to God you are very wrong. You will not find people more faithful to the regime and to the revolution than these Hezbollah elements. The root of the problem is elsewhere.

Hazrat continued: One issue is the interview given by the first vice president. I was surprised because I thought that if his knowledge in economics or politics was slight, he would at least know about legal matters. Remarks such as the ones he made will only damage the reputation of the very government for which he is the spokesman. In his weekly interview, the first vice president talked about the analysis of the respected Council of Guardians with regard to the implementation of Article 99 and said: "The Government believes in the implementation of the Council of Guardian's analysis of this Article and at present accepts this analysis and acts accordingly." In these remarks it is not clear what action he wants to undertake. How can he go clearly against the Constitution and ignore the bills passed by the Majles and put into action an analysis that has not even become law?

The speaker added: Regarding the issue under debate, which is Article 99 of the Constitution, the clear law passed by the Majles, which has also been approved by the respected Council of Guardians, outlines the method to approve or reject the credentials of candidates.

In chapter 6a of the law dealing with Majles elections, Articles 49 to 55 define the various stages of announcing a candidacy, approving the candidate's credentials, the manner in which candidates can appeal decisions taken

against their credentials, the level of the credentials and the method of work and intervention by the supervisory commission. These have been clearly spelled out. The definite result of this is that the details of the law dealing with Majles elections have passed through their legal steps in the implementation of Articles 58 and 122 of the Constitution and have been approved by the respected Council of Guardians within the framework of Article 94 of the Constitution. These have all been implemented in previous elections and are valid and must be implemented. The government has the duty to carry out these steps up until such time that another bill changes the details in the original one.

He added: A very sad and upsetting issue that we are facing in Gilan Province, which becomes more and more widespread each day, is an effort that is being made to crush and remove the forces of Hezbollah, mobilizing the oppressed personnel, those who have gone to the fronts and those who have given martyrs. Each day we receive news that a group of these people has been fired from a factory or office. What is causing most worry in this in Rasht and through Gilan Province is the problem at the province's communications office. There is a manager there who, because of unknown and stupid reasons, or else because he wants to gain power, has undertaken to demolish the religious forces there and who increases this activity daily. It is interesting to note that all those officials in charge are just watching this show of power silently. Who are these brothers who are now being fired by this angry manager? These are the people who have fought against rightist and leftist groups throughout the north. At a time when the small groups considered the northern regions their best area for activity, these forces confronted them all alone. They purged their unclean presence from all the northern cities and jungles. These are the men who filled the warfronts and created legends with their presence in the Karbala' and Qods armies of Gilan Province.

Vahid Ahmadi, Kangavar Deputy

Protest by deputy from Kangavar and Harasain against the impotence of the executive management of Bakhtaran Province in terms of solving the people's problems.

Vahid Ahmadi, from Kangavar constituency, was the last pre-agenda speaker. [passage omitted praising the people of Bakhtaran Province for their perseverance during the imposed war]

He said: Now, by fully obeying the great Leader of the Islamic revolution and by supporting the government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, which is serving the people, these people have preserved their presence on the scenes of the glorious revolution and are taking firm steps to achieve the holy goals of the Islamic revolution.

He added: The problem of the people in our province narrows down to executive management throughout the province, which has so far been unable to solve the people's basic problems. There is the problem of bread in the town because of its poor quality, shortage, the fact

that it is too salty, its unhealthy distribution, and the lack of supervision and control. It must unfortunately be said that every family in Bakhtaran has to give up one family member's time to go and stand in the bread line to obtain bread.

There is the problem with drinking water in the town of Bakhtaran and its pollution due to the sewage of nearby houses pouring into the nearby water-purification center. There have been dozens of lives lost due to illness. Thousands have become sick and have been sent to the hospital. Following complaints from the people, the flow of the sewage was changed within 24 hours. Now the question remains as to who will be responsible for the lives of the victims of this weakness in management?

He added: Some towns in the province, such as most areas of Sahneh, some parts of Harsin, and all of Kan-gavar, have at least one hour of piped water per day.

The problem of fuel remains very difficult each year, and every year there is a promise that something will be done. There are the people's complaints about the process of reconstruction and compensation for damages, complaints about reconstruction because of bad management, and dozens of other issues.

If the officials in our province, including the governor general, make an excuse that this province is war torn or a crisis area and pass over all the problems lightly, then the people will ask: "What problems will he solve in the province?"

Mr. Nuri, respected interior minister, do you not know that most of the Majles deputies from this province, and representatives from the Assembly of Experts—for whom the people showed an incredible amount of support less than one year ago—as well as most of the ordinary people, are unhappy with the actions of the governor general's office? Are you aware that the governor general himself has tried to resign several times? Why are you delaying this matter any further? Is it not the case that the great Leader has said that we are all here to serve the people, that the philosophy of our existence is nothing other than serving the people?

The people of Bakhtaran Province have expressed their dissatisfaction through their deputies and through the Assembly of Experts, for the attention of respected officials. How much longer do we have to wait? Why is it that there is no attention paid to the people of this province, who have kept their dedication for the Leader and continue to do so? Unfortunately, when someone brings up a problem regarding the province, they quickly link it in various ways to political issues. Today the people of our province rely on God, support fully the Islamic revolution, the rule of jurisconsult. They trust the government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani and they show concern for their daily problems. They believe that with strong, correct, unified, and organized management, alongside the people and with proper plans, they can put aside their problems in the shortest possible

time. To distance oneself from the people's problems will not have a pleasant result, and we are all responsible for this.

Mr. Interior Minister, you are a dedicated and trusted person. Please do not allow the suffering people of that area to suffer any longer. The province's people have lost hope in the ability of their governor general's office to solve their problems. This loss of hope comes as a result of the lack of ability of the governor general's office to solve the many problems that this war-torn province has faced during the years of holy defense. You know that the people are the main backbone of the revolution. According to the Leader of the Islamic revolution, they are our bosses. We have to pay full attention to them and it should not be the case that these people should lose hope in their officials, that there should be a rift between them. To do this, it is necessary to have popular officials who love the people and love to serve the people, who are willing to work and make plans so that they can be successful. Of course, it has been some time now since these issues were passed along to the respected officials. But each time there were promises, and what had to be done was never done. I have now brought the issues up so that if God is willing, I will have pleased God and done what is best.

In conclusion, Ahmadi thanked the head of the judicial power and his group for visiting Bakhtaran and Ilam provinces.

Ratifications

The priority legal plan on ways to strengthen buildings, property, and land needed by the government and municipalities was discussed by the deputies at yesterday's open session of the Majles. All of it passed and was accepted. [passage omitted]

*** 18 Sep**

92AS0013A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 19 Sep 91
pp 3, 9

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles met in public session yesterday morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Islam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

At this session, after talks by the deputies from Zanjan, Fuman, Ardel and Farsan, the Majles went into its agenda.

At this session the priority status was approved for the Election Law Reform proposal.

Asadollah Bayat, Zanjan Deputy

With the triumph of the Islamic revolution, the pure Islam and tradition of the Prophet showed its power in action to the people of the world on various issues.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Asadollah Bayat, from the Zanjan and Tarom-e Olia electoral district.

He said: Dear and oppressed Islam is the result of extreme effort by the great divine prophets and saints of Almighty God, and its fruit is the blood of the martyrs on the path of virtue and freedom. It is crystallized in the Glorious Koran, the Traditions of the Seal of the Prophets (peace be upon him) and the way of life of the chaste imams. Through the efforts and struggles of the great scholars, high-ranking theologians familiar with their times, and mystic disciples on the path of God, its exalted and lofty truths have been explained and have remained through the history of humanity in their pure and revealed sense. Today it has proudly raised the cry of freedom for human beings and deprived and oppressed people throughout the world, and it holds the claim for their salvation throughout the world. It tested and demonstrated in action the firmness and truth of its claims on the battlefield of truth against falsehood during the eight-year imposed war, and it tested and showed to all the Muslims and freedom-loving people in the world its decisiveness and sincerity concerning the Imam [Khomeini] of the nation's clear command on the apostasy of the author of *The Satanic Verses* (Salman Rushdie). It has clearly shown the power and strength of his words in bringing down the Marxist and socialist police states throughout today's world, especially the Soviet Union. It proved the leadership capability and sufficiency of Islamic management and the genuine clergy and the prophet-like imamate of His Holiness the Imam, so that after 13 centuries of isolation, oppressed Islam and the forlorn Koran reentered the field of life in the form of an Islamic government with the vice-regency and leadership of a clear-sighted leader and a man with independent discretion in matters of religious jurisprudence, aware of the times, and it was seriously manifested in the field of life and in this sly and deceitful world, and, in the words of His Holiness the Imam (peace be upon him), the government shows the practical side of theology in dealing with all social, political, government and cultural problems, and it is the true and complete theory of managing human beings and society from the cradle to the grave. With the triumph of the Islamic revolution, the pure Islam and tradition of the Prophet showed its power in action to the people of the world on various issues and in the various arenas of life, and in various international encounters and in various military and political fields, and with regard to various individual and social life issues in domestic and foreign policy it delivered its words in an active and vigorous manner to the ears of its followers and supporters. It has shown clearly and with full force that just as a nation can be manifested in harmony and solidarity in the shadow of divine beliefs and valued principles and that they can be persuaded to make a great revolution to create a new government to be tested successfully in Islamic Iran, in today's world, where world imperialism claims to be the manager and there is a monopolar new world order, and in reality the claim to management goes with American domination, and the bullying and hypocrisy are being done under the leadership of world-devouring America, the Islam of Mohammad can create a new order and management relying on divine values and human dignity throughout

the world, create a new world and bring nations together going in the same direction, mobilizing them as one nation against the oppression and cruelty of the world's oppressors, and stand firm and resistant like a solid wall against the comfortable, the well-off, and the plunderers of the world.

He added: One of the greatest achievements of His Holiness the Imam (peace be upon him) which is like a miracle is the very fact that he was able, through the grace of God and the confirmation of the Lord of the Age (may God hasten his joyful advent) and the alertness of the combative people of Islamic Iran, to present Islam in this way and to show the ability of Islam to manage a society and solve problems. He experienced grief in this dangerous process, and was treated with contempt. On the one hand, world imperialism and its domestic agents have been frightened by the reappearance of the pure Islam of Mohammad (peace be upon him), they sense danger from its future consequences, and they were worried about their domestic and international interests, and on the other hand the perverted reactionaries were pouring grist into the enemy mills, and precisely in the service of the goals of world atheism, they made various statements that disturbed people and created misgivings about the righteousness of the Islamic movement and the Islamic revolution of Iran.

His Holiness the Imam (peace be upon him) stood alone against these deviating and dangerous movements and was able to awaken the Islamic nation. Just as the awakened nation must be vigilant concerning the danger of the enemies of the Islamic nation abroad, it must also not disregard the dangers of the pseudo-pious, perverted thinkers and reactionaries, and they must not think the dangers of one are less than the other. Indeed, the groundwork is laid for the plots of world infidelity and bullying by the very act of portraying Islam in a bad light, defending Islam poorly, and inattention to its principles and immortal criteria.

Continuing, the Zanjan deputy said: Today world-devouring America is not seeking to bring our nation to its knees militarily, because it has had eight years experience and has tested in practice the resistance and steadfastness of the children of Islam, the Islamic revolution and the Imam. Rather, it wants to metamorphose the culture of the pure Islam and the Islamic revolution, a culture that was given an identity by His Holiness the Imam, who opened a new chapter in the exercise of independent discretion in matters of religious jurisprudence, who stated clearly that the independent discretion in matters of religious jurisprudence used in the seminars is not adequate for the management of society, who offered new views in various areas from the government's perspective, who showed clearer horizons to thinkers on the ownership of property in general and mines specifically, on music, on the prerogatives of Velayat-e Faqih and the Islamic government, on chess, and on tens and hundreds of other Islamic issues, which have an important role to play today for the Islamic

government and the management of society, and who removed many obstacles from the path of the revolutionary nation.

America and the trite culture invaders want to change support for reason, logic, thought and intellect to support for the Islam of the pseudo-pious and class-conscious, and gradually to push aside the generation of the revolution and the clear and aware elements of society influenced by the genuine and toiling clergy, and again to drive Islamic values, the Glorious Koran and the tradition of the Prophet out of public life into the corners of the mosques and graveyards.

He emphasized: The danger today for Islam and the revolution goes back to the cultural danger posed by the approach taken by those who offer education and analysis of Islam. Islam regards one hour of meditation as being better than 70 years of worship. Islam does not consider any worship the equal of reflection and thought. Islam does not consider reason to be an inward proof of reflection and thought. Islam considers reason to be an inward proof to identify truth and falsehood just as the divine prophets are outward proofs. Islam gives the call to come to God and accepts valued principles in the form of wisdom, logic, good reasoning and debate. In one of the most reputable books in Islam (*Kinab-e Kaf*), it has a chapter called "Advice From the Muslim Imams" announcing the necessity of their advice for aware people concerned about society. Islam has required the enjoining of good and prohibition of evil as a universal obligation for public supervision. Islam's leader and Imam of the nation regard obstacles as a divine gift. Islam reveres and respects individual freedom in the shadow of the worship of God. Finally, Islam has made the highest statements about the most valuable human issues. How can this Islam allow individuals in various speeches and places to discuss issues in the name of Islam in such a way that they show medieval ways of thinking and prehistoric brain-washing?

God forbid, if someone says Islam and the Islamic revolution have been exported to the entire world because a spokesman at some palace grew a beard, has he not strayed far away from the culture of Islam and the Koran? If someone says a great scholar and person with independent discretion in matters of religious jurisprudence and a great descendant of the Prophet has said "if someone is opposed to me, he is a bastard," I ask you as a seminary student, how would this comment be interpreted by the criteria of theology? What theologian has issued a religious decree like this? Why do you attribute something to a great descendant of the Prophet, a person with independent discretion in matters of religious jurisprudence and high-ranking source of emulation that clearly does not conform to the rules of theology?

Will anything be left of Islam, the revolution and the Imam's line if this kind of thinking spreads, and God forbid, if it is expressed in analyses and explanations,

and if competence and the lack of it are evaluated in various instances, such as in the elections, with this kind of thinking?

His Holiness the Imam's worthy successor, the exalted Leader (may his blessings endure), who has a correct understanding of the plot of the cultural invasion against the culture of the revolution and the Islamic revolution, has given the necessary warnings to the officials in the government and has warned of its dangers. It is my belief that one of the factors laying the groundwork for these cultural plots is the growth and prominence of the thinking of individuals who either did not accept the Islamic revolution from the beginning and who said it is wrong and illegitimate to form an Islamic government before the return of His Holiness Mahdi [the Hidden Twelfth Imam], or who presented Islam and Islamic principles as if we were living in the Middle Ages and as if no movement or revolution had taken place in the world, the people were still living in an age of intellectual slavery, certain people were the guardians of the slaves, that the keys to heaven and hell were in the hands of a select group, that they could give these keys to anyone they wish according to their own discretion, and that they could call one group believers and the other infidels, thinking they are the guardians of heaven and hell, when the guardian of heaven and hell is the Commander of the Faithful [Imam Ali, the rightful successor of the Prophet Muhammad according to Shi'ites] and it is only love for 'Ali (peace be upon him), which is a sign of faith and legitimacy, and lack of it is a sign of infidelity, hypocrisy, and bastardness. "Great is the superiority of the Heaven over the Earth."

God willing, with alertness on the part of the awakened nation and their loyalty to the thought and ideas of His Holiness the Imam and with the leadership of the exalted Leader and the awareness of the great scholars and the heirs [the like of] Shuykh Tusi, Seyyed Murtaza, Sahab Javaher, the Mulla Sadr, Khajeh Nasir, Allameh Helli, Shuykh Ansari [renowned Muslim scholars] and the Imam Khomeini, the pure Islam of Muhammad (peace be upon him), as the living solution to the political, social and economic problems of life, will be able to tear down the castles of the oppressors and give shape to the partisans of God and the oppressed people throughout the world and establish divine justice and fairness with its special management. It will not permit, God willing, reactionary and rigid thinking from backward and superficial Islam, which His Holiness the Imam called Americanized Islam, to find new growth, and will not permit the culture of struggle, asceticism, indifference to the world and its attractions, and the freedom of Islam to be destroyed by a call to orientation and comfort, and it will not permit the reappearance of the many obstacles that His Holiness the Imam attacked for Islam and the Islamic government as he passed through various stages. If we continue our movement with the point of view of Islam and with thoughts and ideas appropriate to it, all these problems, whatever political, social or economic, which are felt today by most of our great and sacrificing people, will be put aside, God willing.

Mohammad Reza Shafi'i, Fuman Deputy

The university and secondary school youth must rise in opposition to the manifestations of Western culture and become a model for the youth in other countries.

The second pre-agenda speaker was Mohammad Reza Shafi'i, Fuman deputy. In his talk, he discussed the sacred Defense Week. He said:

This week recalls the bravery of the combatants of Islam and the sacrifices of our brave and martyr-nurturing nation, who created glory and grandeur for our country throughout the imposed war with their steadfastness and gallantry. This pride is such that the enemy has been induced to confess and seek miracles and to prove our righteousness, showing at the same time the oppressed state of our nation to the people of the world. The heroism of our combatants when faced with the enemy on the one hand and the humane and Islamic behavior of our nation towards the prisoners of war on the other, and the enemy's dastardliness in the use of chemical bombs, attacking residential and economic areas, as well as the taking of nonmilitary prisoners, was so extreme that we were still able to carry out our international mission in continuing our Islamic behavior, especially since world-devouring America, with all its military ability and its allies, in the Persian Gulf war buried alive thousands of Iraqi soldiers to bring to its knees the very enemies who had attacked us. It therefore admits that, boasts of it and is proud of it, and this shows our greatness to the people of the world more than ever.

The guidance of the exalted leader, His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i, the patience of our nation, the efforts of the toiling government, the capability of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani and his clear positions were such that they persuaded the enemy to surrender. [passage omitted on start of the new school term, requesting that teachers and students set an example by following the aims and goals of the Islamic revolution]

Continuing his remarks, the Fuman deputy discussed the problems in his electoral district. He said: I ask the respected President of the republic to stop the import of rice. If rice is imported, the dear farmers will be hurt and we will have problems in the future.

He asked the minister of the interior to order as quickly as possible that loans be given to earthquake victims in the Fuhmanat area and the Sheghat District.

'Alirahm Yusefpor, Ardel and Farsan Deputy

The third pre-agenda speaker was 'Alirahm Yusefpor, Ardel and Farsan deputy. In his talk he discussed the sharp awareness of the leader of the Islamic revolution concerning the evil cultural plot. He said: The imam-like warnings of the exalted leader in his meeting with the managers of the Islamic Republic, praise God, left many effects, and were the cause of extensive activities in various directions. These activities must go deeper. His

excellency's warnings concerning the comprehensive cultural assault by the West was followed by some newspapers and prominent individuals, but in view of the depth of the plot, this was not at all sufficient, and the sworn enemies of Islam and the aroused nation of Iran, who were defeated during these thirteen years in their various political and military plots, for some time have been putting all their efforts on every front into diverting our young generation and defeating the liberals and the values of the revolution, and to fight this extensive assault a comprehensive mobilization is needed. All the media, especially the Voice and Vision [Iranian Radio and Television Network] and the newspapers, must have documented and compelling programs on this subject. The seminaries and the university and education and training centers must also intensify their activities with calculated plans, and the executive organizations, with these cultural activities, especially the respected officials in the Ministry of Guidance, must give up this naive idea that freedom must be granted, the freedom to create corruption, fornication, and to plot should not exist for anyone.

For long years this nation has suffered from the putrefaction of mercenary writers, and they ought not to find the freedom to operate, but unfortunately they have.

He then added: As a small and toiling brother, I advise the officials in the Ministry of Guidance to reconsider their new policies and to take the necessary care during Books, Cinema and Theater Week to block the path of traitors and mercenaries.

The speaker discussed another warning from the exalted leader to the government's managers concerning ostentatious practices. He said: Fortunately, a group of our great men and officials, in putting aside superfluous ceremonies, admitted easily that examples of this could easily be observed in the executive organizations and in the Majles. We learned that His Holiness Ayatollah Meshkini, the respected chief of the Council of Guardians, came from Qom to Tehran in a Peykan automobile, and several other theologians also followed the same procedure, but unfortunately some of the managers in government have not given up their Mercedes passenger cars and their excessive ceremonies. While the chief of the Council of Guardians comes and goes in a Peykan, it is not appropriate that some Majles deputies, ministers, deputy ministers and governors-general come and go in late-model and luxury automobiles. In our Majles we have some individuals who are also have great positions of responsibility, but they drive Peykans. Unfortunately, however, we have individuals who still have late-model Mercedes and Toyotas parked in the Majles parking lot and in their own garages. It would be appropriate, in a Majles, which according to our late Imam is at the head of affairs, that they give priority to eliminating the signs of ostentation and ceremony and that one day they should distance themselves from their 1990 and 1991 Mercedes and Toyotas, not simply cover them up in the wake of the remarks by the exalted leader, to be used again when this blows over.

Yusefpor then discussed the continuous use by some Majles deputies of organizational and ministry automobiles. He said: Despite the fact that in every Majles term each deputy is given an automobile to meet his personal needs, in these two Majles terms I have seen that in the four years of their terms some Majles colleagues have acquired for themselves the full-time use of automobiles from organizations or ministries, and they even use these government automobiles to meet their personal and superficial needs. I remind the officials in the organizations and the ministries that based on clear statements by the exalted leader, they do not have the right to give Majles deputies the continuous use of automobiles, to be parked even at night in front of their homes. If we deputies and officials do not observe these issues, how can we expect petty officials to refrain from using government automobiles? Of course we in the Majles ... (uproar by several Majles deputies).

Yusefpor: I said a limited number, I will give names any time you want.

Of course we also have several people in the Majles who have not even taken their legally authorized automobile and are still driving their former automobiles, and they must be praised and thanked.

The Ardel and Farsan deputy thanked and praised the respected President of the republic because of his trip to the province of Chahar Mahal va Bakhtiari, and he asked the Ministry of Energy to investigate the problems of that province.

Elsewhere in his talk, Yusefpor answered protests from some deputies concerning his remarks. He said: Whenever necessary, the names of those individuals will be given. There are individuals who have two automobiles from one ministry parked next to their homes.

In other remarks, the Ardel deputy discussed recent statements by His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i, the leader of the Islamic revolution, concerning the need to observe unity. He said: The warning from the exalted leader had to do with encounters that normally take place in the Majles and in the newspapers, and we saw that this had very deep effects, especially in the Majles. It increased the spirit of mutual understanding and brotherhood, and fortunately the effects of these remarks are still there.

He added: Unfortunately, however, a limited number of our friends, knowingly or unknowing in their talks, speeches and interviews have again done certain things, and instead of speaking about points of commonality as advised by the exalted leader, they raise issues that create disturbances in society.

The speaker said: Recently the matter of the interpretation by the Council of Guardians of Article 99 of the Constitution has been justified in terms that are not that accurate, and they are raising issues.

In explaining this matter, Yusefpor said: During the three previous terms of the Majles the procedure of the Council of Guardians was such that it has rejected the competence of candidates before the day the votes were taken, or it has nullified the elections because of the incompetence of an individual who won.

He added: The Council of Guardians approved those individuals that the Executive Committee rejected, and of course this number was very small and limited, and in these three Majles terms, the instances of those whose competence was rejected by the Council of Guardians were so clear that none of the individuals were willing to protest in public or in the media, nor were individuals willing to protest on their behalf, and the same procedure will certainly be followed in the future for the fourth Majles term.

The speaker added: We all know that the Executive Committee is selected by individuals who are all invited by the governor of the area, and it is a very easy thing for a governor to invite individuals. In the second Majles term we had an example where in a city of several million, the clear majority of the 30 people they invited were not residents of that city. The big problem with this rejection and approval by the Executive Committee is that we put the fate of the legislative power right in the hands of the executive power, and this is the very thing that has led to dictatorship during the history of the Majles.

He emphasized: Should the Council of Guardians, which has six just persons of independent discretion in matters of religious jurisprudence selected by His Holiness the late Imam, and in future terms must select the chief theologian and six legal specialists also selected by the Majles, and that ought to be deserving of this great responsibility, be doing this, or should a council be doing it that is not subject to any of the three powers of government have the right to reject or confirm candidates? Or should this be done by the governors selected by the respected minister of the interior, who implement the orders of the government?

He emphasized: Certainly, the competence of the Council of Guardians in this regard is clear to everyone, and this claim by some that the Council of Guardians is doing this and doing that in the elections for the fourth Majles is aimed at creating a climate of oppression. [passage omitted on Karrubi's speech commemorating anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Hasan 'Askari (peace be upon him); congratulations to Jewish countrymen on occasion of Jewish New Year]

Ratifications

Details on the Law To Strengthen Buildings, Property and Land Needed by the Government and Municipalities was approved at yesterday's Majles session.

Article 1 and the notes to this bill are printed below: [passage omitted on Majles ratification]

The report from RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent states that as yesterday's public Majles session continued, a bill with priority status was proposed by a number of deputies called the Law Amending Article 56 of the Majles Election Law, and after discussions and exchanges of views the priority status of this bill was approved.

The deputies also studied another bill with top priority status called the Public Prosecutor's Attorney Law Amendment. A vote was taken and its top priority status was improved.

The Majles will meet at 0800 next Sunday.

On the Peripheries of the Majles

An interesting point that arose during the last two Majles sessions while the deputies were studying the Law to Strengthen Buildings, Property and Land Needed by the Government and Municipalities was the mayor of Tehran's presence at the Majles and the contact by the deputies with him. A number of Majles deputies went to Mr. Karbaschi, mayor of Tehran, submitting to him letters asking for solutions to problems listed in the letters. The mayor of Tehran read the letters right then and gave answers. Addressing some of the deputies, he noted that "my assistance solving these problems is illegal. Anyone who violates the law while constructing a building or anything else must be dealt with according to the law, and I will not do such a thing under any circumstances."

Likewise, as the mayor of Tehran was departing from the Majles several Majles staff members came to him and asked him to solve their problems with regard to the municipality. Mr. Karbaschi said clearly to some of them: One must do what the law says.

Of course, the mayor of Tehran listened as he was approached by some of the deputies and others and said that their problems would be studied and acted upon.

In continuation of the Iran Statistics Center's national census activity, a number of officials from the Iran Statistics Center came to the Majles and talked with more than 100 Majles deputies.

The report from RESALAT's Parliamentary correspondent states that in their talks with the deputies, census officials asked questions about the number of their family members and dependents, their places of residence, educational status of family members, employment situation, whether renters or homeowners, as well as death rates, and the deputies answered the questions.

Several deputies spoke with our correspondent concerning the cooperation of the people with census takers. They said that if the people give correct and true answers the nation's planners and officials will be successful in planning based on complete and comprehensive statistics and information. We therefore ask the people to

answer the questions from the census takers, for this will certainly benefit the country.

According to the Majles Internal Guidelines, ten minutes are allowed for a pre-agenda speech, but most of the deputies disregard this when giving pre-agenda speeches and talk longer, and of course this is followed by repeated reminders by the speaker of the Majles saying Mr. so-and-so, your time is up, and the speaker of the Majles (rightfully) usually asks the deputies to observe the guidelines.

Yesterday Mr. Asadollah Bayat, Zanjan deputy, who is Majles speaker when Mr. Hashemian and Mr. Karrubi are absent, gave a pre-agenda speech and talked about 15 minutes, and as usual he was reminded by the speaker. It was and is appropriate that the speakers themselves act in the best way on this matter (the Majles guidelines) so that God willing others will do the same.

Yesterday Mr. Yusefpur, Ardel and Farsan deputy, discussed the continuous use of luxury and high-priced model automobiles, especially for personal use, by Majles deputies, ministers, deputy ministers, and governors-general. He explained that after the remarks by the leader, some people stored their Mercedes Benz automobiles in parking lots, so as to use them again later.

After the remark by the exalted leader concerning the necessity of avoiding the use of luxury and high-priced model automobiles, some ministries and government organizations have refrained from using these kinds of automobiles and sent them to parking lots.

A member of the Majles Speaker's Committee told our correspondent that the Speaker's Committee in a set of guidelines has prohibited the use of Mercedes Benz automobiles by Majles deputies, following the remarks of the exalted leader.

Our correspondent went to the Majles parking lot and noted that in observing this measure the Majles parked a number of Mercedes Benzes there, but despite this, a number of deputies still come and go in Mercedes Benzes. It is said that a number of these Mercedes automobiles, which are being used even now by some deputies, do not belong to the Majles and are the property of other government agencies and organizations.

22 Sep

PM2910150091 Tehran RESALAT in Persian
23 Sep 91 pp 5, 11

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The Majles open session was held yesterday morning and chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

At this session, following comments by deputies from Tehran, Bakhtaran, Fariman and Sarakhs, as well as the Majles Speaker, the Majles went into session.

Mohammad Ebrahim Asqarzadeh, Tehran Deputy

Even when there is a law, when it is unclear, it needs analysis.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Ebrahim Asqarzadeh, deputy from Tehran.

He focused his speech on the Council of Guardians' analysis of Article 99 of the Constitution and said: In the legal field, the power of the Constitution is based on two important factors. First is the fact that unlike ordinary laws, the laws of the Constitution are not easily understood or analysed. In other words, the difference between ordinary law and Constitutional law lies in the area of reconsideration or change, which in some cases is impossible [to predict]. Shakiness in the Constitution could cause indifference and growing chaos. It could put national unity in danger, which could ultimately endanger national security. The second point is that any change or analysis regarding the implementation of the Constitution needs a mechanism and stable, clear control. This has to exclude the daily personal likes and dislikes of individuals. Some countries operate under a two-tier system of law making, or else there is control of the judicial power over the legislative power. But in the Iranian Constitution, because there is a clear division of the three powers, control of the laws has not been handed over to the judicial power. There is also a clear effort to stay away from a parallel parliament or one that is higher than the Majles, such as the senate or something similar to the parliament that the shaykhs have, with a superior voting power and veto rights. Our Constitution only allows a group of clerics known as the Council of Guardians to see whether or not the laws passed by the Majles contradict either the laws of the Constitution or the principles of Islam. Even this has to be done within a certain time frame. Reconsideration of ordinary laws also requires that they be returned to the main Majles so that they can be passed again during an open session. If the Council of the Guardians takes longer than the specified time limit for their deliberations, the law under consideration is ratified and has to be implemented.

He then talked about some of the discussions held at the final round of discussions in the Assembly of Experts, whose members wrote the Constitution, and added that analysis of the Constitution is not an ordinary task. He said: We should not seek analysis unless we come across an obstacle in a specific case. Even an analysis and breakdown of the laws dealing with legal matters, contracts or deals should only be undertaken if a problem in the law causes difficulty and there is a definite lack of a clear-cut decision. This means that the bodies authorized to analyze the law should avoid doing so unless something like this happens. This understanding of the first point is relevant for the Constitution. So the first condition of analysis is necessity. Therefore the necessity for analysis comes from the lack of a legal standing and the lack of understanding of the order, decree, or spirit of the

law, because of its abstract nature. In other words, even if there is a law in existence, if it is not clear enough, it needs analysis.

Article 99 of the Constitution deals with the supervision of the Council of Guardians over elections for the Majles, the President, and the Assembly of Experts. This supervision is to designate observers for the elections, not to determine the quality of the supervision. On the other hand, the Council of Guardians analyzes this principle of supervision to mean observing the quality of supervision at elections. In legal terms, these are two completely different things. The lawmaker, in order to avoid the mutual cancellation of the declarations of both sides, has been forced to give details in two separate sections. This is why the Constitution talks about the quality of the elections in other articles, including those on the qualifications necessary for presidential candidates.

Article 108 outlines the quality of elections for the Assembly of Experts. Clause 9 of Article 100 clearly defines the quality and qualifications needed to approve those candidates wishing to run for the presidency. In Article 62, the quality of the elections and the conditions that the candidates have to meet are left up to the law. The lawmakers of the Constitution recognize a difference between the quality of supervision and the people authorized to be supervisors. The article is silent regarding the quality of supervision by the Council of Guardians. This means "there is no ruling in this regard." But the law itself is not silent. Because the Majles can make a law with regard to a specific issue not mentioned in the Constitution.

The deputy from Tehran added: The existing law governing elections, passed by the Majles, is valid and has a strategic legal role, which the Council of Guardians has itself passed and approved. In Article 3 of this law, the quality of supervision is mentioned without abstracts. The head of the central supervisory committee, who is himself a member of the Council of Guardians, said: The Majles is the body that analyzes ordinary laws, if there is an abstract question. This is in accordance with Article 73 of the Constitution. I announce clearly that the Council of Guardians has offered analysis in an area about which legal sources have not remained silent, where there is no confusion. This means that the Council of Guardians has in fact acted in a way that is contradictory to its own ruling. It said: "If in the main items there are issues that cause obstacles for officials or persons who are directly involved with the issue, in such a way that the Council of Guardians can remove the obstacle simply by giving an opinion, the council can then offer analysis once it has understood the issue in its abstract form." In reality, the Council of Guardians has offered analysis, quite against its own ruling, in an area where the Constitution is silent. This is forgery, in a way, of the law. Lawmaking is one of the Majles duties according to Article 71. Just imagine that quite against the accepted norm, the Council of Guardians should make a decision to analyze all those areas where the

Constitution is silent. This means that it would start making laws. What would happen to the country's legal system? So one must admit that those people who regard this analysis as a political move are in fact right.

He then talked about the government's position regarding the Council of Guardian's analysis, and said:

At present there is a clear difference of opinion between Majles deputies and the Council of Guardians regarding analysis. But this difference of opinion does not mean that the government has to fall short of its own legal obligations. It does not mean that it should ignore the responsibility given to it by the lawmakers. The government has the duty to carry out the bills passed by the Majles according to the articles of the Constitution. This means that the government has no choice, but to accept the legal position of the Majles. This is because it receives its own legitimacy through the Majles and is itself answerable to the Majles and the representatives of the people. The Council of Guardians clearly presented its views on government on 8/9/1362 [29 November 1983] when it stated: "In each case, the government or responsible official must take action in accordance with the bills passed by the Majles. Its actions are only legal within the framework of the bills that have been passed. Outside of this framework, it needs to get bills passed before the Majles." On the other hand, the legislative power in the country is not in a position where it can come under pressure by the government. It is in the hands of the people's representatives, who have been elected in a neutral way, without a particular preference being imposed, but only with the real votes of the people. So any kind of imposition of political views could have damaging affects. The position that the respected government spokesman announced regarding the government's following of the Council of Guardian's analysis on the elections, even if that analysis is correct, could cause much confusion. Did this announced position express a decision made by the cabinet? Was it support for the Council of Guardians? What is the basis of the thought behind such a decision made by the government? Keeping in mind Article 123 of the Constitution, which says the President must implement all of the bills passed, what is the legal reasoning behind delaying or ignoring the laws governing elections? If there is false lawmaking or a forgery of the law in the analysis, what legal excuse does the government have for obeying another source other than the Majles? One must also keep in mind the right of Majles deputies to impeach or question ministers regarding their duties. By recognizing another body that may draft laws, what will happen to this right to impeach or question deputies? On the one hand, the President is answerable to the Majles. Keeping in mind the common belief that regards this analysis [from the Council of Guardians] as being politically motivated, how can one act against the principles of the law and existing traditions and deviate from the logic of neutrality? The President has a duty to implement the Constitution. According to Article 58 of the Constitution, the implementation of legislative power is possible

only through the Majles. If the government needs to change a specific law, it must present this analysis to the Majles so that another law can be passed and implemented. Asqarzadeh concluded his speech by attacking a high-ranking member of the Council of Guardians, saying: Despite the fact that I feel I should remain silent, I do not recognize comments by a certain member of the Council of Guardians to be in the interest of the country. So I give him a friendly warning. This gentleman has taken the fatherly advice of the Leader [Khamene'i] to his children—which was intended to serve as a guidance—and has made a political issue out of it. He has turned these remarks into a club to hit over the heads of the people, especially the university students. This person thinks he is serving Islam. Does he not even notice that there are those who obey the Constitution, who follow the Leader, whose actions have shown that they follow the Leader, and that they should not be accused of going against the Leader? Does he not know that he should not call them names—which would suit him more? Even if you want to see some deputies leave the Majles, why do you downgrade your own dignity and Islam's dignity and even tell lies in order to achieve your aim? Dear brother, you and I are both responsible to safeguard the people's rights and liberties. We should not force the people to safeguard our freedom of action.

He added: Today this country's government holds the largest monopolies. The communications network is in the hands of the government, the elements of development and basic economic activity are in the hands of the government. Energy, electricity, dams, roads, telecommunications and everything else belong to the government. It is against the law for the government to deviate from this path until such a time when the Constitution is corrected. Giving basic approval to the private sector for manufacturing cars is against the law.

The budget deficit for the year 1371 [1992-93] [as published] increased in comparison with figures for 1370, according to the 1371 budget directive recently issued by the government. We shall see the budget deficit climb higher in the future if the respected Majles does not correct this. An increase in the deficit will mean more inflation, more borrowing, and more cash flow. All the pressure will come down on the heads of the poor, the oppressed, and vulnerable classes. A word of warning: The reason for reduction of budget deficit this year is that the government is selling foreign exchange. [as published] In reality, this means that an increase in the price of foreign exchange and the injection of some foreign exchange at the market rate or at the rate of 600 rials has caused the budget deficit to decrease.

Our policy regarding the budget deficit has been to control the amount of cash flow. But unfortunately in 1368 [1989-90], we had an increase of more than 19 percent in the cash flow. For 1369 [1990-91], according to the plan, a 15.3-percent cash flow was predicted, yet we face a 22-percent cash flow. Because bank interest rates for people's savings increased to 13 percent, someone with savings of 100 million rials will have

130,000 rials in interest at the end of the year. The amount of cash in the people's hands has increased because of basic limitations and because of obstacles in the path of fundamental investments. The respected deputies have to be aware that the price of oil and the figures for oil exports projected in 1371 [1992-93] budget are unrealistic and it is a matter of necessity that the respected Majles correct this.

He concluded his speech by saying: I thank the respected minister of interior and the respected governor general of Khorasan Province for choosing the new governor of Sarakhs. I announce to the respected government that increasing cooperation in matters to do with economics, culture, and arts between officials and experts from the respected office of Khorasan's governor general and all the responsible bodies and organizations in the province indicates the worthiness and the capability of officials in the province.

He added: The respected government should increase the powers of officials in charge of Khorasan Province during the visit to the province by the President of the Soviet (Turkmen) Republic so that they will be able to increase bilateral economic, social, and cultural ties.

Mohammad Ashrafi-Esfahani, Bakhtaran Deputy

The elements that are preventing unity have to be identified and removed.

Mohammad Ashrafi-Esfahani from the constituency of Bakhtaran was the second pre-agenda speaker.

He said: The birth anniversary of the Prophet of Islam, and the start of Unity Week for the Islamic ummah, coinciding with Holy Defense Week, all remind us of historic and vital days for the brave people of Iran. These bittersweet days will never be forgotten and will be registered in history as a major proof of honor and pride for the Iranian people. The sweetness was from eight years of holy defense, in sensitive days, during the victorious operations of the forces of Islam when the brave Iranian youth loved Islam, the dear Imam [Khomeyni] and martyrdom with all their hearts. By sacrificing their lives and their property they defended their land, Islam and their revolution. They drove the weakened enemy out of our lands and brought honor and dignity to the Islamic homeland.

He added: There were some very hard days for the Iranian people during the holy defense. At the end of it and most bitter of all was the cup of poison that the Imam drank. [reference to the statement by Khomeyni in which he equated his acceptance to stop the Iran-Iraq war with drinking a cup of poison] The faithful ummah, upon hearing about that message and the cup of poison, shed bitter tears and the war finally ended with that cup of poison. In truth even if that was a cup of poison that the Imam drank, with this cup of poison, the Imam brought sweet life forever for the ummah and brought glory for Islam and the revolution as well as pride for the Iranian people. He knew well that the enemies of the

revolution have decided to destroy the Islamic Republic. The true face of the criminal Saddam became known and was made clear to all the peoples of the world, especially the people of Iran, as a result of the invasion of Kuwait and the war between the United States and Iraq. With the dangerous modern weapons that the world aggressors had placed at the disposal of Saddam and the all-out support that he received from the East and West during the imposed war, Saddam's filthy nature became apparent. It became clear what fate could have awaited the Islamic republic if the Imam, using his sixth sense, had not accepted Resolution 598 in order to safeguard the regime and if he had not finally drunk that cup of poison. Therefore the acceptance of Resolution 598 on the part of Iran was unpredicted and a complete surprise for world politicians. The enemies of the revolution saw their own death as a result of this issue.

That was not and will not be the last plot hatched against the Islamic revolution by the world aggressors. The presence of U.S. troops in the region, with the excuse of the Kuwaiti invasion and the so-called new world order set out by the United States, the destruction and defeat of communism and Marxism in the Soviet Union and the mention of a peace conference between the Arabs and Israel all indicate another plot and another serious danger for the Muslims and Islamic countries, especially the Islamic revolution.

A clear example of this is the recent military agreement between the United States and Kuwait. The Americans, with this agreement, have created a military base for themselves in the Persian Gulf region in order to realize their own goals and those of the occupying and criminal Israelis. The Islamic masses must beware the dangerous consequences that this development can have.

Ashrafi-Esfahani also talked about the role of the people during the Islamic revolution and said: In sociopolitical issues, one must not use illegal methods or methods that go against the region when one is trying to remove the opposing group. We need each and every person in all political and social fields. If economic problems are the elements preventing unity, they must be resolved. If the cause is a rise in immoral behavior and corrupt culture, they must be removed. If it is creating an atmosphere and spreading rumors about officials and those who serve the regime, one must fight it. In any case the people must trust officials because our regime is an Islamic one, headed by the jurisconsult. If God forbid some of the work is hurried and done without much prior thought, it will not have a pleasant outcome.

Ashrafi continued: Today the issue of high prices and inflation has put much pressure on the working classes and oppressed people. Most of them are having problems in their daily life and are complaining. The government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, which is serving the people, must make plans to solve this problem. The unfair distribution, corruption, and bribery in some offices; the lack of government control on prices and necessary items; freedom in economic matters where merchants

can price their goods in any way they wish and see no obstacles in their way—these are all social ills and the people do not have tolerance for such issues. Why do the judicial authorities in the country not do something about such matters? Did the Majles not pass a bill regarding economic corruption and selling at high prices with penalties up to the level of capital punishment? Why have the expediency measures stopped? Is it the case that the situation in the country has changed from that during the war? Is it not the case that the country's officials have often said that the problems after the war are by far greater than those during the war? Then why is it that the society has just been left alone and why is it that the guilty are not dealt with?

He stressed: Municipalities in most towns have become sources of complaint for the people. Of course they do not have a welfare budget and they must be self-sufficient. But what is the price that has to be paid for urban services and urban welfare? The Majles interior commission has had many meetings with the respected minister of interior and the mayor of Tehran. It has reached a final conclusion that there the laws governing municipalities must be reconsidered. Of course, the Majles commission is doing just that.

In conclusion Ashrafi-Esfahani asked the President for his help in trying to resolve poverty and solve the economic, industrial, welfare, and unemployment problems in his constituency.

He then gave some details about resolving the issue of providing drinking water in Bakhtaran and other issues of this province.

He also said that the governor general of Bakhtaran Province was the source for services during the hard years of the war, but added that since his responsibilities have been extended and keeping in mind the fact that he can no longer carry out his duties, his continued work in the province is not recommended.

**Qazizadeh-Hashemi, Sarakhs, Fariman, and
Ahmadabad Deputy**

From all the justification to use foreign credit that the government gave in the Five-Year-Plan, so far it has only attracted a small sum.

The last pre-agenda speaker was Seyyed Hosein Qazizadeh, from the constituency of Sarakhs, Ahmadabad, and Fariman.

He remembered Holy Defense Week, Unity Week, and the start of the new academic year and said: At the start of Holy Defense Week, at the start of Unity Week, and at a time when all the microphones are shouting about unity and brotherhood, and abandonment of hostility, unfortunately we have been informed that the holy barriers around the clergy and the holy barriers of the press have been violated. The prominent and worthy cleric Hujjat ol-Islam val-Moslemin Mr. Seyyed Abol Fazl Musaviyan, the responsible editor in charge of

KHORASAN newspaper, has been arrested by the special clerical court. This in itself is a warning to all those who in the past one or two years have heard unclean footsteps within the holy boundaries of the Islamic revolution and who have felt the danger with all their being.

Qazizadeh then talked about the actions of the government in terms of the five-year-plan and said: The government's strong point in the implementation of the five-year-plan has only been in the area of production growth. For 1369 [1990-91] there was a prediction of 9-percent growth, but the report from the government indicates that there has in fact been 10.3-percent growth. But the primary weak point of the government in the five-year-plan has been the fact that they have not had success in bringing down consumerism, defining and implementing a consumer pattern, providing necessary items or controlling prices.

The government, in following its foreign exchange policies for last year, has used the excuse that it has had technical limitations and has spent a considerable sum, outside of the program and above the ceiling designated by the Majles, which is against the law.

He added: The operational expenditures in the country in 1369 [1990-91] have increased by 32 percent, which does not match the program. Even if we want to compensate for the rate of inflation, which they have announced as 9 or 10 percent, it would have been logical for us to have about the same rate of growth in our expenditures. But we have increased spending by some three times the rate of inflation, which has to do with a tendency toward consuming luxury items. The issue of ostentatious living is only a small part of it.

From the justification that has been made in the five-year-plan, the government has so far managed to attract only \$8 billion in foreign credit, which is a very insignificant sum of money. The projects that are under way in Iran using foreign credit, if they do not bear fruit within the specified time, the net result will be that we not only have to pay the interest of foreign investments, but also put up with the loss incurred as a result of work not being completed by these factories.

Comments by the Majles Speaker

Then Hujjat ol-Islam val-Moslemin Karrubi, the Majles Speaker, made a speech and talked about 31 Shahrivar [22 September], the start of Holy Defense Week. He said: After the defeat of plots mounted by the small groups that were linked to foreign elements and other mercenaries, the enemies of Islam and the revolution, in a coordinated move with the United States, regional reactionaries and Islam's enemies, started an attack by land, air and sea against Islamic Iran using the Ba'thist forces. [passage omitted on brave struggle during the imposed war]

The Majles Speaker continued his remarks by speaking about the plots hatched by world heretics against the

Islamic revolution and the all-out support that was given to the aggressor saying: The Islamic Republic of Iran resisted, based on its belief. And the people of Islamic Iran taught a lesson to the enemies forever. The enemies became aware that the people of Islamic Iran were Islam's grave children who would defend their territorial integrity with pride and dignity.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi spoke highly of the bravery of the eight-year holy defense of the Muslim people of Iran and said: After eight years of experience and the test that the heroic people of Iran came through, the people are now standing firm and steadfast behind the great Leader to defend Islam, the revolution and their country.

He said: We condemn the U.S. presence in the region and the signing of the disgraceful agreement and we defend Islamic Iran's greatness with all our might.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi remarked on the glorious birth anniversary of the Prophet of Islam and the start of Unity Week and added: There was a new movement in Iran with the success of the Islamic revolution in Iran. And the enemy was prevented from spreading its poison, which was sowing the seeds of dissent among the Muslim masses.

He said: The Sunni brothers and the Shi'ites are always alongside one another and will defend their country and their Islam; and they will resist any movement aimed at causing friction, dissent, and seeking revenge.

He stressed: We always need unity, sincerity, and brotherhood because with the plots that the enemies of Islam have in their heads, we know they are lurking in the shadows and they are waiting for one mistake to deliver blows.

The Majles Speaker added: We must always be aware and pay attention to the fact that unity is the biggest element of our success. We must all provide, more than ever, the groundwork for brotherhood and unity and stay away from friction and differences and other issues that damage our unity.

Her added: In the management of a regime and a revolution we must have patience, wisdom, farsightedness, awareness, and goodwill. We must stay away from shortsightedness and self-centered behavior because, God forbid, the slightest mistake could deliver a deadly blow against the regime.

We hope that once again all the forces dedicated to Islam, Iran, the Leader, and the President will gather alongside one another and will be able to pass through the current world situation with sincerity and to pass through the events that are happening now and the plots that are being hatched against the Third World and Islam. If God is willing, we shall be able to defend those values and ideals that the Imam and the revolution created for us. We hope to be able to hold our heads up high in the presence of our Imam, in the face of the Founder of Islam and the martyrs.

The Speaker of the Majles commented on the start of the academic year and said: We hope that students will take strong steps toward the centers of learning. We hope the teachers are ready to serve them with smiling faces, with energy, with goals and beliefs. We hope they will make an effort to teach them and make them familiar with dear Islam, to prepare them with science and piety for future responsibility and for the services that they will have to render the regime, the revolution, and Islam in the future.

He stressed: We hope that the regime of the Islamic Republic and the Majles will continue to make an effort to solve the problems of centers of learning and the universities, and that steps will be taken to solve the issues faced by those who serve in such places. That way, some day-to-day problems of life will be solved so they can carry out their duties with more enthusiasm.

Ratifications

The top priority of a plan dealing with the law governing lawyers at the Ministry of Justice was discussed at yesterday's open session of the Majles, in the presence of the Council of Guardians. It was put to a vote following discussion, but was rejected and not passed.

The report filed by RESALAT's parliamentary correspondent indicates that during this session, a bill dealing with the purchase of all property used for the purpose of education was passed. [passage omitted on the Majles ratifications]

Also during yesterday's open session, discussion took place on a plan with signatures from 27 deputies. The plan was entitled, "Handing Over Legal Responsibility for Matters Dealing With Air Transport to the National Aeronautics Company." Following remarks by one of the people who had signed the plan, there was a vote to discuss the issue as a matter of priority, which was accepted.

It is also announced that a request had been received from Mr. Gharibani regarding an investigation into the Atomic Energy Organization.

29 Sep

*PM2910100891 Tehran RESALAT in Persian
30 Sep 91 p 5*

[Excerpts] Legislative and Parliamentary Division—The open session of the Majles was held yesterday morning chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi.

At this session, following remarks by deputies from Tehran, Abadan, Damghan and Quchan, the Majles went into session.

It is worth noting that the speech given by Mohammad Reza Bahonar, deputy from Tehran, regarding the statement made by the Majles speaker at the open session of

the Majles last Wednesday, as well as added comments by the Majles speaker were published in yesterday's edition of this newspaper.

'Abdol Hoseyn Moqtada'i, Abadan Deputy

To accept responsibility at a high level in the Islamic Republic, is considered null and void without a commitment to Islam, the revolution, and service to the people.

The first pre-agenda speaker was 'Abdol Hoseyn Moqtada'i from the constituency of Abadan.

He said: Accepting responsibility in the holy regime of the Islamic Republic is based on commitment to Islam and the revolution. The country's officials have accepted these duties with the aim of serving the people. Accepting responsibilities at high levels in the regime, if it is outside this framework, will be considered null and void. Accepting the heavy load of responsibility during the critical and dangerous stages at the start of the revolution and during the war, can only be measured in terms of love, belief, and sacrifice. It seems very unlikely that in a regime such as this officials would accept their post just to go through their lives or simply as an ordinary job. In reality the commitment of regime officials and their love and willingness to serve in this country is a result of the people's investment in this regime. The people gave their lives, their property, and their loved ones and stood alongside the Imam of ummah [Khomeyni] and, continuing the same path, they will gather behind the great Leader [Khamene'i] of the revolution. It is this same undying support of the people that has brought about independence, lack of dependence on the major powers, glory and dignity for this land, and has provided our officials with much useful experience. The formation of the regime and the fact that our officials have gained experience in management are the direct results of the presence and support, sacrifice and tolerance of hardship by the people. This is why any damage caused to the regime or to its officials is in reality not recognizing and ignoring this honorable ummah.

Does it not seem that removing people who are eager to serve, either through various accusations, by putting them under pressure, or by confronting them with so-called legal means—although with special goals and ideas in mind—would only serve the enemy?

What is this unpleasant tendency in some who prefer to hear praise from a group of indifferent sycophants who want to reap the fruits of the revolution rather than criticism made in sympathy from revolutionary and religious elements? It must be made clear who is responsible for the latest tension caused regarding the upcoming elections for the Majles by bringing up the issue of candidates' credentials? Who is it that is against the unity of the people and officials and against the people's wholehearted involvement?

The deputy from Abadan continued: At the beginning of the migration of the people from war-torn areas, because

they were taken by surprise, nobody expected any organized or planned work from officials. People in cities such as Abadan and Khorramshahr, because their cities had such diverse activities, such as industry, agriculture, trade and a university life, have suffered considerably more damage than other war-torn areas. Without a doubt much of this can never be repaired.

The lowered standard of education, unemployment, tolerance of hardship in refugee camps, and loss of revenue as a result of not being able to benefit from investments made in agriculture, and industry and jobs in these regions are some of the things that need special attention. Unfortunately the trend of thought that governs the Plan and Budget Organization, because of their lack of familiarity and because they have not looked into the problems in war-torn areas, will cause problems. This issue becomes quite clear when one looks at the credit given to the Foundation of Refugees and the attention given to reconstruction matters.

He added: The reconstruction work that has already been done in Abadan does not mean that shortcomings in the issue of reconstruction in this city should be covered up.

He commented on the President being satisfied with the progress of reconstruction work in Abadan and said: The people question whether it should be officials who should be happy with reconstruction or those who are involved with the problems of reconstruction themselves?

There is still a long way to go before Abadan can return to the prosperity that it had before the war. The expression of satisfaction, if it was done to encourage officials, should have been made to a smaller circle, not in the midst of the very people who have legitimate complaints about the progress in reconstruction.

The people of this region, just as they tolerated the problems of being war refugees, will without a doubt make more effort for their city and for the Islamic homeland, more than before. But this depends on whether or not the officials will get off their high horse and walk alongside their people. This or that minister or official in charge of reconstruction, when visiting Abadan and Khorramshahr, take several cars into the centers of those cities, through the main streets where there has been a certain amount of construction, and move along a designated route. Then on their return they give an interview and after that it is presumed that reconstruction work is complete in the war-torn areas. Are these gentlemen aware that because schools are not ready and because of a lack of teaching staff, many students have still not been registered for classes? Does the respected minister of education know that in this city both the students and the education department are confused? He thanked the deputy president in charge of executive affairs and the officials of the Reconstruction Crusade in Khuzestan province and asked the minister of roads and transportation to speed up the work to build

the bridges on the Bahmanshir river in addition to completing work on Abadan International Airport.

'Abol Fazl Hasan-Beigi, Damghan Deputy

Provision of strategic goods, both in political and economic terms, is vital and decisive for nations.

'Abol Fazl Hasan-Beigi, deputy from Damghan was the second pre-agenda speaker. In a speech he talked about the comments of the great Leader on giving priority to agriculture and special attention to raising cattle and agriculture and said:

In news and stories it has been mentioned that most prophets were involved with agriculture or were shepherds and considered these tasks as important and they thought these jobs were vital for a country. Imam 'Ali—peace be unto him and his family—dug 25 underground water networks and established date palm groves for farmers and paid special attention to providing necessities for Muslims.

He added: In order to achieve independence and self-sufficiency, which are the important aims of regimes that rely on their own peoples, each of these countries must choose a path and method that matches their potential. Activity and programs can then be based on the plans already drawn. One group wants to replace imports and another group recommends more exports. Between them there is another group that suggests a combination of the two. Today's discussion on self-sufficiency has been initiated in our country. Is it the case that simply by increasing the export of industrial goods, there will be self-sufficiency and the people's daily needs will be provided? If that is the case, what happens to the huge difference between our technology and that of developed countries? Is it possible for us to mass produce, thereby reducing the cost of production? Who will buy the goods manufactured by us? Is there a possibility for us to compete in terms of both quality and quantity? If there are those who talk about increasing exports, yet do not wish to reply to the above questions, there will be nothing except a waste of time and a waste of facilities for the country. One must keep in mind the limited industrial and technological abilities in the country and the high cost of production for industrial goods. One must recognize internal resources, extend and expand local talent and natural resources, keep in mind population growth and their needs, then find and realize the healthiest and at the same time the most certain way to achieve independence. Then short programs and long-term plans with clear goals should be drawn up and included in a reconsideration of the first five-year plan.

He continued his speech: To provide strategic goods, both in political and economic terms, is vital and decisive for people. Today the Third World and Muslims have stretched out their hands and expect help. Food is held as a strategic weapon in the hands of the major powers who rule the world and the vulnerability of the needs countries is quite obvious. If we think about importing basic agricultural goods, we have to accept

that events, changes, and political plans will have an effect and there will be events beyond our country, which will dominate our food supplies. To provide food for people and to produce goods that are considered as primary in the diet of a people, must be placed at the top of the list of priorities in our plans for self-sufficiency.

Hasan-Beigi commented on the fact that the direction taken by the government to improve the economy must be focused on agriculture and added: There must be an effort in the agricultural sector to strengthen its manpower, to make better use of its current facilities in order to draw appropriate plans to plant the right crop, keeping in mind the natural aspects, water and soil. There should be better and more appropriate use of agricultural land by improving harvesting methods. By utilizing one of the organizations responsible for agriculture and increasing the level of education, improvement methods should be considered. In this path we expect more effort from the ministries of reconstruction crusade and agriculture.

He continued his speech: In order to realize the necessary and just demands of the Islamic Republic of Iran, it is necessary for all to cooperate in every possible way with the working government of Ayatollah Hashemi-Rafsanjani [title as published] Just as we supported the government of martyrs Raja'i and Bahonar and the government of Mr. Musavi, the engineer, today we stand behind the great Leader and support and back the government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani. We thank God that today at the head of the government in the Islamic Republic we have a wise man, pious scientist, just cleric, good manager, brave, sympathetic, and dedicated crusader who in every way was supported by the departed Imam and who is at present enjoying the special attention of the Leader of the Muslims' affairs. With God's benevolence and management, the country's economy is improving. Of course the great Iranian people know that by withstanding the difficulties and problems, by going through the ups and downs, by showing patience and by tolerating hardship, they will be able to reach the basic and lofty goals of the revolution and achieve self-sufficiency. Today our regime is Islamic and belongs to the great Prophet of Islam and the Hidden Imam—may his return be expedited. To strengthen the government, the Majles, the judicial power, all organs and officials of the regime, is essential for all. To weaken them is against religion and will not be accepted by anyone. The great and aware people of Iran, at the service of the legal authorities, are watching all actions and efforts. They will guide those with deviated thoughts to follow the correct and right path. Of course constructive criticism is good for the goals of the regime. Those who have certain views can discuss their views with officials in a friendly manner.

The deputy from Damghan in another part of his speech congratulated the IRGC [Islamic Revolution Guard Corps], the crusaders, the armed forces and the mobilization units for their victories during eight years of holy defense. He hoped that one day they would all, in the service of the great Leader, participate as soldiers of the

Hidden Imam—may his return be expedited—to fight with world aggression to remove heresy from the face of the world.

In conclusion he gave some instructions to executive officials regarding the problems faced by his constituency.

Mohammed Baqer Zakeri, Quchan Deputy

This bitter truth exists that there is still a huge difference between us and Islam and the lives of our religious leaders.

The last pre-agenda speaker was Mohammad Baqer Zakeri, the deputy from Quchan who talked about Unity Week and said that in the last few days he had heard speeches and interviews that were in no way worthy of Unity Week. He read out a section of the last will and testament of the Imam—may his passage to paradise be expedited—regarding Friday prayer leaders and said: What is this carelessness that is afflicting us, whereby anyone, without the slightest consideration for the interests of the regime or the people, says anything that he wants, does anything he wants, and his blade cuts as deep as it wants. Despite all this, he complains and invites others to unity. What is this sad situation whereby, instead of wanting to correct and guide one another, unfortunately there are those whose only wish is to mislead the opposing side, or else portray them as deviants, so that in the end the other one falls down and is destroyed, so that he can remain victorious. What false thoughts! a curse on this self-centered attitude! The Prophet—peace be unto him—told Imam 'Ali—peace be unto him and his family—that it is better that one person is guided to take the right path, than to have everything under the sun.

He continued: Without a doubt, in cities, especially in small areas, the Friday prayer leaders can become the best sources of unity for religious and revolutionary forces. But if a Friday prayer leader himself becomes the head of a movement, his house, paid for by donations from the public, which should belong to all the community, becomes the center for decision making, the planning and propaganda headquarters of one specific candidate out of all possible candidates, if he starts to level accusations against others to achieve his goals, how can he create unity? How can he invite people to piety? In this regard I will not say anything further at this point. But I seriously ask the secretariat of the Friday prayer leaders not to allow some Friday prayer leaders to deliver more blows against themselves, and as a direct consequence to all clerics and to the people's unity.

Zakeri commented on the remarks made by the Great Leader on the first day of lessons for theological students and said: This is in connection with the Leader's comments on the economic problems of theological students. There are those who think that because the clergy was at the forefront of the revolution and because they are at the top of this regime, being heads of all three authorities, that anyone who wears a turban does not have

economic problems. I say to them that today the clergy are among the most deprived of classes in society. God knows what happens to the young clerics, with families, still studying as well those elderly clergymen in the provinces. It is only enough that the people should know that clerics still do not have housing benefits, insurance, retirement pensions, or any of the bonuses enjoyed by civil servants, who receive all those things as the most vulnerable class in society. Of course I am sure that with special attention from the great Leader, and of course serious cooperation and coordination from the managers of theological centers, important steps will be taken in this regard.

In connection with the love for luxury he said: The luxury living that has been witnessed to some extent in the Islamic Republic, has no relation whatsoever to the luxury that existed in the previous regime and cannot be compared with the luxury that exists elsewhere in the world. But there is this bitter truth that we are still a long way far from Islam and the lives that our religious leaders lead. Imam 'Ali in verse 159 of the book *Nahj ol-Balaghah* comments on the simple lifestyle of the Prophets Moses, David, and Jesus—peace be unto them—and says: "Look at the Prophets, because those who imitate the Prophets are God's favorite subjects." Then he says: "The Prophet—peace be unto him—was left the hungriest person in the world. The Prophet—peace be unto him—sat on the floor when he ate, without spreading a tablecloth. The Prophet—peace be unto him—used to mend his own clothes with his own blessed hands and he sewed his own shoes. The Prophet—peace be unto him—used to ride on the back of a donkey without a saddle and shared the ride with another person. The Prophet—peace unto him—once saw a decorative curtain hanging in his house. He told one of his followers to take it down because it reminded him of the riches of the world."

The philosophy behind the need for simple living is that humans are limited creatures. They get used to certain things and forget everything else. Therefore those who have the regime in their hands, in order to remember those who are hungry and thirsty, must live like them. Our departed Imam, who was an extraordinary man, once said: "One cannot live in a palace and look after a person who lives in a hole." Therefore if we do not want to be satisfied only with a few percentage points increase in GNP [gross national product], if we were to realize what the Leader talked about when he said: "We do not just want to work, we want to bring the poor out of poverty," if we want the Islamic revolution to remain in its state of glory, our planning must be in the hands of dedicated, Islamic experts who have felt pain. As the founder of the Islamic Republic once said: "Only those who have felt pain, poverty, and oppression will remain with us until the end."

Zakeri quoted some more sayings from Imam 'Ali—peace be unto him and his family—and said: Those who are making an excuse for the way they live quote Imam 'Ali—peace be unto him and his family—as saying:

"You cannot be like me." First of all he did not say you cannot be like him, he was talking about something specific and said, "You cannot be this way." Second, there is no doubt that nobody can be like Imam 'Ali—peace be unto him and his family. This was something that Mo'aviyeh, 'Ali's staunchest enemy, had discovered too. This is why when he heard of the response of Imam 'Ali to his brother, 'Oqail, when he had asked for a small amount of wheat from the Muslim treasury to feed his hungry children, Mo'aviyeh shed tears. Third point is that prophets and imams lived in such a way that they could be role models for everyone else. Otherwise following them would have no meaning.

The speaker concluded: At present, keeping in mind the amount of cash flow, the government's budget deficit, the loans that they get each year from the banking system, and other reasons and elements, one can see that in general the economic policies that have been adopted are in the interest of the country, but on the whole everyone can see that the oppressed, who are the real owners of the revolution, get poorer each day. All those who issue slogans in favor of supporting the oppressed, those who, like Ayatollah Musavi Aradebili, during the Friday prayers sermons praise the methods of Gandhi, those who are trying to cure a sick economy, are expected to undertake a revolutionary step and cure themselves for the health of the revolution. They should imitate the Prophet—peace be unto him—and the imams—peace be unto them and their families—and share their wealth (if they have it) with the poor and thus infuse the spirit of giving and kindness into the society and until such time when the promise of the planners would come to fruition, they should solve the problems of the homeless and the poor to a certain extent. It is most proper that a legal way of sharing out society's resources should be found. But one should note that humane and emotional issues cannot be ruled by law. This is why the prophet—peace be unto him—with his superior and kind behavior turned medina, which was a town full of pagans, into a society filled with wisdom, brotherhood, and unity. He did not do it with laws. I am personally asking the Imam's Relief Committee to come and review my lifestyle. If they find anything that is not needed in an ordinary existence, they can take it away and give to the needy. [passage omitted on Karrubi's speech on martyrdom anniversary of Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Nezhad; commemorating death anniversary of military commanders Fallahi, Fakuri, Namju, Kolahdüz, and Jahanara who were killed during Iran-Iraq war]

Ratifications

The details of the charter for the Institute of Food Research and Food Industries was passed at yesterday's open session of the Majles.

The report filed by our parliamentary correspondent on yesterday's open session of the Majles indicates that the corrections made by the Council of Guardians regarding

the legal plan to expand the tourism industry, was discussed by the deputies and passed. [passage omitted on the Majles ratifications]

The next item on the agenda was the plan for the hiring charter of the national government accounts' office, returned by the Council of Guardians. After discussions among the deputies items 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 21 of this plan were removed and the following text was accepted as item 16.

Item 16—From 1/1/1370 [21 March 1991] the national accounts' office is covered by the coordinated law dealing with salaries of government civil servants, passed by the Majles on 13/6/1370 [4 Aug. st 1991], with regard to paying salaries and bonuses and other issues.

The last item on the agenda was the plan to move the offices of companies and factories to the centers of provinces or the nearest city. Following discussions among deputies, continued discussion on this plan was postponed until the next open session of the Majles.

The Majles will have an open session at 0800 hours tomorrow.

On the Peripheries of the Majles

During yesterday's open session, 11 of the deputies gave notice to the head of the judicial power, the minister of justice and the special court dealing with clerics, regarding the manner of a court case involving the editor of KHORASAN newspaper. The text of the notice is as follows:

In accordance with Article 168 of the Constitution, looking into political and press violations is a public matter and is done in front of a jury in courts. Article 36 says punishment and its implementation must only be carried out by an appropriate court and in accordance with the law. Article 34 of the press law says that violations of the press will be dealt with in a proper court with a jury. According to the law dealing with defense lawyers passed by the Expediency Council, looking into accusations against journalists is only legal if there is a lawyer present. Unfortunately the case against Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Musaviyan, the manager of KHORASAN newspaper, was held in a special court for the clergy, quite against the law, without the presence of a jury. His lawyer was prevented from entering the court and press people were also barred from entry. Keeping in mind that this is the first case against the press that is being tried in a court of law, this could become an improper precedence and be adopted as an improper and illegal method in future cases.

Signed by: Seyyed Mohammad Razavi, Hadi Qaffari, 'Abbas Duzdüzani, Seyyed Hadi Khamene'i, 'Ali Akbar

Mohtashami, 'Ali Mohammad Gharibani, Asadollah Bayat, 'Abolhasan Ha'eri-Zadeh, and three other signatures, which were illegible.

Also at yesterday's open session 16 deputies gave notices regarding the recent problems of Martyr Beheshti University. The text of the notice handed to the minister of health, treatment, and medical education is: The selection of a new head of the Martyr Beheshti medical

sciences university and the ensuing incidents, and the decision involving the entry of the new chief into the university grounds accompanied by security guards, is very dangerous and will have unpleasant consequences. Signed by: Gohar ol-Shari'a Dastgheyb, Marziyeh Dabagh, 'Atefeh Raja'i, Astaneh, Farzad, Asghar Nowruzi, Mozafari-Nejad, al-Hoseyni, and several illegible signatures.